

SPECIAL DUTY OFFICER – CRYPTOLOGIC WARFARE (DESIGNATOR 1810)

Community Overview:

Cryptologic Warfare Officers (CWs) are part of the Navy's Information Warfare Officer Community (along with Intelligence, Oceanography, Information Professionals, and Cyber Warfare Engineers) whose mission is to defeat any enemy by using Assured Command and Control, Battlespace Awareness, and Integrated Fires to achieve Freedom of Maneuver across all warfighting domains.

CWs provide the Navy with expertise in cryptology, space, signals intelligence (SIGINT), cyberspace operations, and electronic warfare (EW) to ensure freedom of action while achieving military objectives in and through the electromagnetic spectrum, cyberspace, and space.

CWs are expected to apply their expertise at the tactical, operational & strategic levels of war while employed on ships, submarines, or aircraft, with Naval Special Warfare, across the Intelligence Community or on major navy and joint staffs.

Cryptologic Warfare Officers are technically adept, as well as effective communicators, able to translate complex technical issues into operationally relevant information for Naval and Joint Commanders.

Mission:

Deliver competitive outcomes in all domains of warfare through the application of Cyberspace Operations (CO), Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), and Electronic Warfare (EW). To support and defend US interests, operate as a fully integrated part of the Information Warfare Community (IWC) by optimizing combat power through integrating the elements of Assured Command and Control (AC2), Battlespace Awareness, and Integrated Fires. To do this, we must coalesce with all elements of the IWC—intelligence, METOC, communications, cryptology, and cyber warfare engineers. Our community plays a critical role.

Eligibility Requirements.

Required: A baccalaureate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.00, an Officer Aptitude Rating (OAR) minimum score of 45, US citizenship, the ability to obtain and maintain a Top Secret security clearance, and be physically qualified for sea duty and worldwide deployable. Must be willing to take a Counter-Intelligence Polygraph.

Desired: A baccalaureate degree in a Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) related field. A curriculum including calculus and calculus-based physics (CALC I & II, PHYSICS I & II) is highly desired.

Accession Options.

Direct Accession: There are a limited number of USNA and ROTC quotas, as well as a larger number of Officer Candidate School (OCS) quotas available each year to immediately begin as a Cryptologic Warfare Officer.

Cryptologic Warfare Option. USNA and ROTC midshipmen are also able to commission under as a SWO-CW option. CW Option Officers are commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) - Student, (designator 1160). These officers are assigned to Division Officer Afloat duties on a ship where they will complete a SWO experience tour and qualify as a Surface Warfare Officer. Following that tour, SWO-CW options are redesignated as CWs (1810) and begin serving in CW specific assignments.

Training Pipeline:

New CW Officers attend the following training courses: The Division Officer Leadership Course at Dam Neck, VA (1 week) helps to prepare new officers for their upcoming leadership roles. The Information Warfare Basic Course (3 weeks) also in Dam Neck, VA introduces new officers to the range of skills that make up the Information Warfare Officer Community. The Cryptologic Warfare Officer Basic Course (8 weeks) in Pensacola, FL covers the basic core competencies of CW and prepares CWs for their initial fleet assignment at a major cryptologic center.

Qualification:

CW officers are required to complete a series of CW-specific qualifications and to qualify as Information Warfare Officers (IWOs).

Career Opportunities:

CW Officers serve worldwide, afloat and ashore, across almost every naval platform, special operations and expeditionary forces, on every major Navy and Joint staff, throughout the Intelligence Community and the Cyber Mission Force.

Most CWs begin their careers at a major cryptologic center where they learn their tradecraft and develop a strong foundational understanding of signals intelligence, electronic warfare and cyberspace operations. Follow-on tours are extremely varied and afford officers the opportunity to broaden their experience and to develop deep expertise within specific areas of the CW community. CWs have sea-going assignments at every paygrade and are often deployed in support of navy & joint operations.

Postgraduate education is important to the success of the CW community. Many CWs will have the opportunity to attend the Naval Postgraduate School to complete a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering, Space Systems Operations/Engineering, Computer Science & Systems Design, Cyber Systems and Operations, Modeling, Virtual Environments & Simulation, or Operations Research. Limited PhD opportunities also exist.

Web sites:

More information at Navy.com:
<https://www.navy.com/careers/cryptologic-warfare>

Navy Personnel Command CW site:
<https://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/officer/Detailing/IWC/TW/Pages/default.aspx>

Information Warfare Community on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/IWCsync/?ref=br_rs

Point of Contact

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